

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled)

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Claim 14 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, further comprising a sliding sleeve displaceable in a longitudinal direction of the electrode lead and actuating means for actuating the sliding sleeve wherein said central core is of one-piece construction in the form of a spring element and causes the branches to split apart when the actuating means moves the sliding sleeve toward the proximal end of the electrode lead.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, further comprising a sliding sleeve displaceable in a longitudinal direction of the electrode lead, means for actuating the sliding sleeve to split the at least two branches apart, and means for heating the memory member structure so that the shape of the memory member structure can change to maintain good contact between each branch and a wall of the atrium or the ventricle.

Claim 16. (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 15, wherein the memory member structure in at least one of the at least two branches is activatable simultaneously or after the actuating of the sliding sleeve, and a first branch assumes a shape as the septal branch and a second branch assumes a shape as the lateral branch for respectively assuming a septal position and a lateral position in one of the atrium and the ventricle of the heart.

Claim 17. (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 15, wherein at least one memory member structure, in at least one of the branches, experiences a predetermined change in shape by being heated above a predetermined temperature.

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Claim 18 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 17, wherein the memory member structure contains titanium.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the electrode lead is split into three different branches.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended) An electrode arrangement for the endocardial discharge of defibrillation pulses in one of the atrium and ventricle of the heart, comprising:

an electrode lead having an undivided proximal end, a distal end and a splitter from which at least two branches of the electrode lead extend to the distal end, each branch having a central core extending from the splitter of the electrode lead; and

a plurality of electrically conductive surface portions disposed on the at least two branches, said plurality of electrically conductive surface portions for being electrically connected by way of the electrode lead to an electrical pulse-discharging device at the proximal end of the electrode lead, wherein the at least two branches include a septal

branch and a lateral branch, and the septal branch and lateral branch each have an equal number of electrically conductive surface portions disposed thereon, and each electrically conductive surface portion of the septal branch is unambiguously associated in pairs with an electrically conductive surface portion of the lateral branch, and

wherein each pair is actuated in such a way that two electrically conductive surface portions of a pair serve as an anode and a cathode in a bipolar mode of operation and each actuated pair defines a layer spanning from the electrical conductive surface portion of the septal branch to the electrically conductive surface portion of the lateral branch thereby dividing cardiac tissue resulting in a better defibrillation device.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the septal and lateral branch each has disposed thereon about 5 to 7 electrically conductive surface portions.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the electrically conductive surface portions are in the form of ring electrodes.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 22, wherein at least one of the ring electrodes are formed at the tip or distal end of at least one of the at least two branches.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 19, wherein the electrically conductive surface portions of each branch are respectively spaced approximately one centimeter from adjacent electrically conductive surface portions.

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Claim 25 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 19, wherein the at least two branches further includes a ventricular branch which is adapted to assume a position in a ventricle of the heart and has at least one ventricle electrode.

Claim 26 (Previously Presented) The electrode arrangement according to claim 20, wherein said central core is made of a memory member structure that enables good contact to be maintained between each branch and a wall of the atrium of the ventricle.
